Abstract of the Invention

5   A uni-level description of computer information built using
basic structures or a metamodel allows model, schema, and instance
information to be represented explicitly for a variety of distinct model-based
representation schemes or models. Exemplary distinct representation
schemes include Extensible Markup Language (XML), Resource
10   Description Framework (RDF), developed by the World Wide Consortium,
Topic Maps, and a relational database model. The uni-level description is
stored in a computer readable medium and is comprised of basic
structures that are instantiated to describe various models or
representation schemes of interest. In one implementation, the uni-level
15   description is expressed using triples, loosely based on RDF in one
implementation. The basic structures or metamodel of the uni-level
description includes or provides a basic or generic set of abstractions for
information representations that are characterized as including
representation schemes, schema level data, and instance level data. A
20   transformation method for converting computer information from one
representation scheme to another, from one schema to another, and, in
general, for converting model, schema, or data from the computer
information in a first representation scheme to model, schema, or data of a
second representation scheme.